

# Northeast CAPT News Update

**Tania Garcia, Director**

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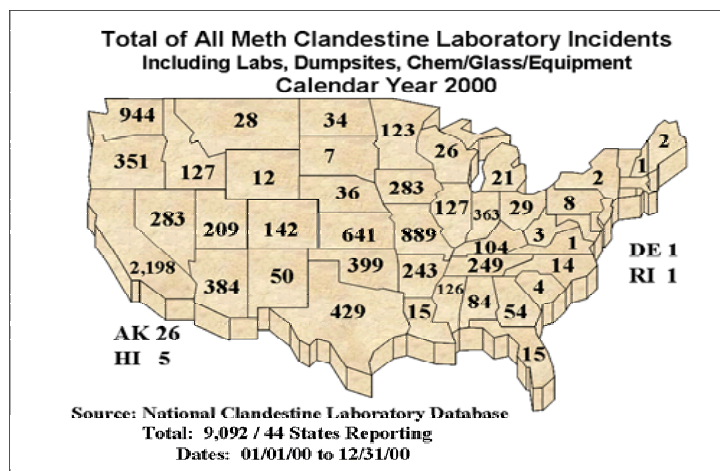
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## VOICES FROM THE FIELD

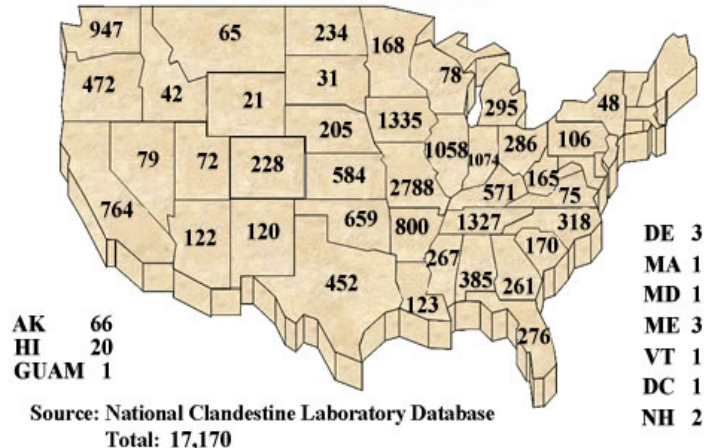
### Methamphetamine Trends: 2000-2004

As prevention practitioners and others continue to look at methamphetamine use and abuse, it is helpful to examine national trends. One marker of methamphetamine use is through clandestine laboratory incidents trends. Laboratory incidents include labs, “dumpsites,” or “chemical and glassware” seizures. The following maps from the Drug Enforcement Agency illustrate the change in methamphetamine laboratory incidents from 2000-2004. To access these and other maps, go to:

[www.usdoj.gov/dea/concern/map\\_lab\\_seizures.html](http://www.usdoj.gov/dea/concern/map_lab_seizures.html)



**Total of All Meth Clandestine Laboratory Incidents Including Labs, Dumpsites, Chem/Glass/Equipment Calendar Year 2004**



map last updated on August 18, 2005

According to graphs above, several states, such as California and Nevada, show decreased methamphetamine laboratory incidents, while others, such as Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, and Tennessee have seen substantial increases. The graphs also illustrate the movement of methamphetamines from the west to the east over the last five years.

For more information on this topic, prevention strategies, and policies around methamphetamine contact the NECAPT Staff at: [capt@edc.org](mailto:capt@edc.org).

## Resources

### Methresources.gov

Prevention and Education

[www.methresources.gov/AudienceResource.aspx?AudId=2](http://www.methresources.gov/AudienceResource.aspx?AudId=2)

This website contains summaries of recent state initiatives to prevent methamphetamine use.

### National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

Methamphetamine Information

[www.nida.nih.gov/DrugPages/Methamphetamine.html](http://www.nida.nih.gov/DrugPages/Methamphetamine.html)

This webpage contains general methamphetamine information, fact sheets, and other resources.

### Office of National Drug Control Policies (ONDCP)

[www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/drugfact/methamphetamine/index.html](http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/drugfact/methamphetamine/index.html) This website contains general information on methamphetamine use, news, publications and additional resources. It also includes: *Taking Action Against Methamphetamine Next Steps and New Tools in the Administrations Efforts*  
[www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/news/press05/meth\\_factsheet.html](http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/news/press05/meth_factsheet.html)

### **The Effects of Stress on Drug Abuse (NIDA: Message from the Director)**

The emotional impact and uncertainty stemming from the overwhelming damage to our Gulf Coast and widespread upheaval of Americans make it more important than ever that we have effective methods to cope with stress. These times may be particularly difficult for people who are vulnerable to substance abuse or who may be recovering from an addictive disorder. We know, for example, that stress is one of the most powerful triggers of relapse, even after prolonged periods of abstinence from drugs of abuse.

Research also shows that an illness called Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) may develop in people who experience or even witness a severe traumatic event. From both research and clinical experience we know that PTSD is a strong risk factor for substance abuse and addiction. As events continue to unfold in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and in other states affected by Hurricane Katrina, it is likely that some individuals, including those who are helping with the rescue efforts, may encounter behavioral and emotional readjustment problems of varying severities, and may be prone to use drugs and alcohol to try to escape from the realities of their days.

Excerpt from:

[www.nida.nih.gov/about/welcome/Messagestress905.html](http://www.nida.nih.gov/about/welcome/Messagestress905.html)

### **New: NECAPT Disaster Preparedness and Response Resource Links**

The Northeast CAPT has added a new “Disaster Preparedness and Response” section to its website. The section contains information on disaster responsiveness and related resources, including specific information on responses to Hurricane Katrina. This website contains a variety of materials that substance abuse prevention practitioners and other public health professionals can use to become better informed about disaster

preparedness and response policies, resources, and organizations.

[captus.samhsa.gov/northeast/resources/disaster/disaster.cfm](http://captus.samhsa.gov/northeast/resources/disaster/disaster.cfm)

### **New 2005 GRAA Grantees**

The Northeast region has been awarded four new Grants to Reduce Alcohol Abuse (GRAA) initiatives. The GRAA is a 3-year grant program funded by the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools. GRAA funds go directly to school districts to provide effective programming and strategies aimed at reducing alcohol use at the secondary level. The Northeast CAPT will provide training and technical assistance to these sites.

Descriptions and content information for GRAA sites:

#### **Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Franklin County, New York**

This agency has designed a three-year prevention effort entitled *Franklin County Project Success*. The project has four goals: 1) to reduce underage alcohol use; 2) to reduce the rate of binge drinking; 3) to increase the number of high school students who believe alcohol use is harmful; and 4) to decrease the social acceptance of underage drinking. To address these goals, Franklin County is implementing four SAMHSA Model Programs: *Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol; Family Matters; Project Toward No Drug Abuse; and Project SUCCESS*.

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#### **Pembroke Central School District, Pembroke, New York**

This grantee is launching the *Pembroke CARES (Collective Aim to Reduce and Eliminate Substance Use) Program*, designed to promote positive attitudinal and behavioral change in teen alcohol and substance abuse and assist students and families at risk. To achieve these goals, Pembroke Central School is implementing two SAMHSA Model Programs: *Class Action and Project SUCCESS*.

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**New Bedford Public Schools, New Bedford, Massachusetts**

This grantee is starting the *Comprehensive Approaches to Alcohol Prevention (CAAP) Program*, designed to reduce underage drinking, with a particular focus on binge drinking. The program will use a variety of universal and selective strategies to change normative beliefs and behaviors among youth, parents, and other members of the New Bedford community. To achieve this goal, CAAP is implementing four SAMHSA Model Programs: *Class Action*; *Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol*; *Life Skills Training*; and *Reconnecting Youth*.

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**Washington County Alcohol Reduction Collaborative, Washington County, Maine**

This grantee's overall project goal is to delay or prevent the onset of alcohol use, as well as to reduce the overall amount of alcohol use and subsequent abuse among adolescents in Washington County. To reach this goal, Washington County is implementing two SAMHSA Model Programs: *Class Action and Community Trials Intervention for the Reduction of High Risk Drinking*.

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## RESEARCH UPDATE

### **New Research Highlights Patterns of Drug Abuse in Hispanic-American Youth (NIDA)**

Recent research has shown that despite declining trends in drug use among American youth, drug use among Hispanic youth remains high. Researchers from the Institute for Social Research at Ann Arbor, Michigan, compared trends of marijuana, cocaine, and heavy alcohol use among Hispanic-American adolescents. They examined data from 24,235 self-identifying Hispanic students in eighth grade from the 1991-2002 Monitoring the Future (MTF) surveys. Although drug use trends for Hispanics were consistent among eighth-graders, drug use varied by subgroups and drug type. Past year marijuana use was 25 to 33 percent higher for boys than for girls of Mexican-American, Puerto Rican, and other Latin American (but not Cuban) ethnicities. However, there were no gender differences among these groups in past year cocaine use and heavy drinking. Hispanic students living in households with both parents were less likely to use cocaine than Hispanic students living with no parents. The scientists published this paper in the April 2005 issue of the *American Journal of Public Health*.

For more information:

<http://www.nida.nih.gov/newsroom/05/NS-09.html>

### **New Community Epidemiology Working Group (CEWG) Report Released: Cocaine Most Widely Used Illicit Stimulant; Methamphetamine Use Varies (University of MD)**

The CEWG is a network of epidemiologists and researchers from 21 U.S. areas that meets twice a year to discuss current and emerging substance abuse. Following are highlights from the recently released advance report of the meeting proceedings:

Cocaine continues to be the most widely abused illicit stimulant. Indicators of cocaine abuse have remained high in all CEWG areas except Honolulu and San Diego. The extent of methamphetamine abuse varies greatly across CEWG areas, where it continues to be high in Honolulu, San Diego, San Francisco, and Seattle. While methamphetamine continues to be more prevalent in rural areas, there are clear indications of the availability

and abuse of methamphetamine in some suburban and urban areas as well, such as Atlanta.

For details, including data charts, source information and caveats; download the PDF file at:

<http://www.cesar.umd.edu/cesar/cesarfax.asp>

### **Televised Anti-Tobacco Advertising Decrease Smoking in U.S. Youth (CDC)**

Reductions in state-sponsored anti-tobacco advertisements may provide short-term savings, but increased smoking and smoking-related diseases may result in long-term costs for states.

Researchers found that students living in states with at least one televised, state-sponsored ad held greater anti-smoking attitudes and beliefs and were less likely to smoke than students who were not exposed to anti-tobacco ads. In addition, higher Targeted Rating Points --a national rating system that estimates frequency and reach of advertising to 12 to 17 year olds--were associated with significantly greater odds of having anti-smoking attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors.

For more information, go to:

[http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/research\\_data/youth/mmwr\\_5442\\_highlights.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/research_data/youth/mmwr_5442_highlights.htm)

### **Finding May Explain Link Between Alcohol and Certain Cancers (NIAAA)**

Drinking alcoholic beverages may be linked to an increased risk of developing certain types of cancer, including gastrointestinal cancer. Researchers are focusing on acetaldehyde, a suspected carcinogen formed as the body metabolizes alcohol, to demonstrate the link between alcohol and cancer. In the journal *Nucleic Acids Research* (vol. 33, num. 11), scientists from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology report that polyamines -- natural compounds essential for cell growth -- react with acetaldehyde to trigger a series of reactions that damage DNA, an event that can lead to the formation of cancer. The researchers also found that the polyamines facilitated the conversion of acetaldehyde into crotonaldehyde, an environmental pollutant that has been shown to cause cancer in animals.

For more information, go to:

[www.niaaa.nih.gov/NewsEvents/NewsReleases/aug3.htm](http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/NewsEvents/NewsReleases/aug3.htm)

### **New Report Spotlights Substance Use Among Pregnant Women (SAMHSA)**

A new report from SAMHSA shows that, despite many warnings, over 4 percent of pregnant women age 15 to 44 reported illicit drug use during the past month, 4 percent engaged in binge drinking, and 18 percent smoked cigarettes. The report also shows a distinct age discrepancy in this substance use: Pregnant women age 15 to 25 were more likely to use illicit drugs than pregnant women age 26 to 44.

The report, based on combined 2002 and 2003 data from SAMHSA's National Survey on Drug Use and Health, shows that 4.3 percent of pregnant women age 15 to 44 reported using an illicit drug during the past month, compared with 10.4 percent of nonpregnant women in that age group. While 9.8 percent of pregnant women reported drinking alcohol during the past month, 4.1 percent reported binge alcohol use, and less than 1 percent reported heavy alcohol use. Rates of past-month illicit drug, alcohol, and cigarette use were lower among pregnant women than among nonpregnant women who were recent mothers and nonpregnant women who were not recent mothers. Among nonpregnant women, substance use rates were lower for recent mothers than for women who were not recent mothers. This suggests that women in this age group increased their substance use during the year after giving birth, although not to the level of nonpregnant women who were not recent mothers.

Excerpt from:

[alt.samhsa.gov/SAMHSA\\_News/index.asp](http://alt.samhsa.gov/SAMHSA_News/index.asp)

## **NEW RESOURCES**

### **Resource Center to Address Discrimination and Stigma**

SAMHSA's Resource Center to Address Discrimination and Stigma offers practical assistance in designing and implementing anti-stigma and anti-discrimination initiatives by gathering and maintaining best practice



information, policies, research, practices, and programs to counter stigma and discrimination. The Center also actively disseminates anti-stigma/anti-discrimination information and practices to individuals, States and local communities, and public and private organizations. In addition, the Center will help individuals, organizations and governments design and implement programs to reduce discrimination and stigma associated with mental illnesses in the community, workplace, and the media.

Excerpt from: [www.adscenter.org](http://www.adscenter.org)

### **SMART: Selected Metropolitan/Micropolitan Area Risk Trends**

The Selected Metropolitan/Micropolitan Area Risk Trends project uses the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) to analyze the data of selected metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas with 500 or more respondents. BRFSS data can be used to identify emerging health problems, establish and track health objectives, and develop and evaluate public health policies and programs.

Excerpt from: [apps.nccd.cdc.gov/brfss-smart/index.asp](http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/brfss-smart/index.asp)

## **SELECTED UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Upcoming Online Courses**

*Don't Judge a Book by Its Cover: Using Feasibility Assessment to Select Prevention Programs*

December 5-9, 2005

This course presents a tool designed to help practitioners select an evidence-based prevention program that matches their organization's or community's capabilities. It combines readings, online activities, and moderated discussion. Course materials include planning tools, an annotated bibliography of resources on capacity-building, and links to related Web sites.

For more information on this online event, please contact Melanie Adler at [madler@edc.org](mailto:madler@edc.org) or 617-618-2309. To receive information on course registration, please go to: [captus.samhsa.gov/northeast](http://captus.samhsa.gov/northeast) and add your name to the mailing list.

## **NECAPT Key Contacts**

### **General Contact**

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### **Supplements**

**Weed and Seed, Ecstasy, Earmark,  
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